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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A measuring device determines the distance between the radiation source and the image receptor in a radiographic image machine. The measuring device directs a radiated signal from a source positioned at a first point to a detector positioned at a second point. A circuit connected to the source and the detector determines the travel time of the radiated signal. Based on the spatial relationship between the source, the detector, the radiographic imager radiation source, and the image receptor, the source to image receptor distance of the radiographic imager is determined. A display may be connected to the control circuit to output the source to image receptor distance. The radiated signal may comprise a laser beam, an ultrasonic signal, a magnetic field, or an RF electromagnetic signal.